



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1707 | FAX (517) 373.3935
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/toy/

For Immediate Release
May 30, 2006

Contact: Heather Lombardini
(517) 373-1707

Sen. Laura Toy's legislation to protect children signed into law

LANSING – Legislation to help protect children across Michigan from sexual predators was signed into law Tuesday, said state Sen. Laura M. Toy, 6th District.

"I am truly relieved to see such an important piece of legislation enacted," Toy said. "Children need us to stand up for them and protect them from sexual predators. Anyone who would repeatedly hurt a defenseless child deserves to be locked up for life."

Toy's legislation along with two companion bills requires repeat offenders convicted of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree to serve a life sentence without a chance of parole if their victims were under the age of 13.

Earlier this month Mark Lunsford, the father of Jessica Lunsford, a 9-year-old Florida girl who was kidnapped, raped and murdered by a convicted sex offender, came to Lansing to testify in support of legislation to protect children.

Lunsford has traveled around the country as an advocate for tougher child sex offender laws.

The House of Representatives has also been working on Michigan's version of "Jessica's Law" which would provide a minimum of 25 years in prison with lifetime parole for anyone 17 years of age or older convicted of sexually assaulting a child under the age of 13.

Toy's bill is Public Act *** of 2006.

###

Editor's note: A photo of Sen. Toy and Mark Lunsford is available on the Senate Majority Photowire at: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Toy/Toy.htm>